

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Forest Department -"Reforestation of Degraded Forests with Family Assistance Method- Scheme for giving degraded forest lands to the Weaker Sections for raising Block Plantations on 'Tree Patta' basis- approved - orders- issued- partial modification-orders-issued.

ENVIRONMENT FORESTS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.III) DEPARTMENT

**G.O.Ms.No. 37**

**Dated:09.06.2009**

**Read the following:-**

1. G.O. Ms. No. 337, F&RD (For.VI) Department.Dt.13.12.1983
2. G.O. Ms. No. 445, Forests, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries (For.VI) Deptt., Dt. 21.10.1986.
3. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, Letter No.8181/2003/U2, Dt.05.05.2008.

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**ORDER:**

In the reference 1<sup>st</sup> read above, Government have issued orders for implementation of the Scheme for leasing out the degraded forest lands on "Tree Patta" basis to the weaker sections of the society for raising fuel wood plantations with a view to improve the performance under 'Social Forestry Programme' and also to help the Weaker Sections of the Society through afforestation programmes in the State Further, in the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> read above, in supersession of these orders, the Govt. have revised this scheme as "Reforestation of Degraded Forests with Family Assistance Method" by granting Tree Pattas for raising Block Plantations to benefit the Weaker Sections of the Society for implementation in all the Districts the State. In the said Scheme Clause No.10 reads as follows:

"a minimum plant survival rate shall be insisted to ensure sustained interest in the protection and maintenance of the plantation by the beneficiary. A survival of 90% shall be insisted upon at the end of the year of planting, 85% at the end of the period of maintenance as per FSR and a minimum of 75% survival at the time of harvest has to be ensured by the beneficiary to claim the share from out of the gross proceedings".

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad has stated that in pursuance of orders issued in references 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> read above, many beneficiaries from weaker sections have raised plantations in reserve forests and government lands under Family Assistance Method (Tree Patta) Scheme in the years 1980's and 1990's. Further, in the GO Ms.No. 445, FAH& F (For.VI) Deptt., dt. 21.10.86, clause 10 mentions that "a minimum of 75% survival at the time of harvest has to be ensured by the beneficiary to claim the 50% share of gross proceedings".

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad has further stated that, there are reports from the field officers stating that in some plantations raised under Tree Patta Scheme, the survival percentage is reported to be less than 75%, as the extraction is delayed and in the meanwhile these Plantations were suspected to damage by cattle and pilferage. They are therefore requesting for exemption from the 75% survival clause in the said G.O. In such ground reality, insisting on 75% survival as per the said G.O. at this belated stage will defeat the very spirit and objective of giving the benefit to the weaker sections of the society as the SCs and STs were identified as the beneficiaries under this scheme and were promised to get the share of 50% sale proceeds.

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3. Certain representations from public representatives are also received stating that the beneficiaries of the scheme are continuously requesting for distribution of their share amount received from the final harvest from the Plantations raised and maintained by them.

4. In the circumstances, Government after careful examination of the entire issue have decided to order for harvesting the remaining plantations by suitably modifying the clause 10 of GO Ms.No. 445, FAH& F (For.VI) Deptt., dt. 21.10.86. Accordingly in partial modification of Clause 10 of the above G.O Government hereby issue the following orders.

1. To enumerate and harvest all such plantations which have not yet been harvested and account for the harvested produce, and dispose off the produce immediately.
2. To account for the sale proceeds of all such plantations raised under this scheme in the past harvested and sold.
3. To pass on 50% of such sale proceeds already harvested /to be harvested to the genuine beneficiaries concerned and to remit the balance 50% of the sale proceeds to Govt. A/C as Forest Revenue and settle the issue once for all.
4. Further benefits on these areas from now onwards i.e., after harvest and disbursement of the sale proceeds among the individual beneficiaries, will accrue to the entire VSS as a community resource.

6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad is requested to shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

JANAKI R.KONDAPI  
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
A.P. Hyderabad.  
The Vice Chairman & Managing Director,  
Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation Ltd., Hyderabad.  
The Accountant General, A.P. Hyderabad.  
The Finance (Expr. M&F) Deptt.,  
S.F./S.Cs.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER